

Chatham Township Environmental Commission  
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600

Minutes of the Tuesday, February 3, 2009 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members L. Caprioglio, K. Abbott, S. Hoag, R. Barrett, O. Raadam, S. Carroll, D. Stillinger, and Township Committee Liaison W. O'Connor

CTEC'S PURPOSE (N.J.S.A. 40:56A, 1968): to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2009 was posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building, mentioned on the Township web site, and published in the newspapers Chatham Courier and Daily Record. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings and participate in projects.

Minutes

Minutes for December 2, 2008 and January 6, 2009 were approved.

DATES FOR 2009 AND JANUARY 2010.

Every first Tuesday: Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July - no meeting, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 in 2009, and Jan 5, 2010.

REORGANIZATION. D. Stillinger was voted Chair, and K. Abbott was voted Vice-chair.

ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT. S. Carroll discussed having the Township form a Green Task Force to conduct a residential energy audit, circulate a survey to residents on ways to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and plan next steps in energy conservation. The SustainableJersey program was discussed.

APPLICATION/LOI REVIEW

- PENDING. 25 HICKORY PLACE. 12-1-09. Block 48.17, Lot 126.02. R-3C zone. Application to Planning Board from Chatham Hill Apartments to replace the swimming pool. CTEC discussed stormwater concerns, especially regarding the flume behind the apartments that would receive stormwater and pool drainage. CTEC approved sending a memo to the Planning Board. O. Raadam will prepare the memo.
- PENDING. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 10-31-08. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to the Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval, two conditional use variances, hardship c(1) variance for steep slopes disturbance, to demolish 3 buildings and build two new buildings with associated parking areas. Impervious cover of 16.1% is proposed, 15% allowed. 9,995 s.f. (8.7%) of slopes between 20%-25% proposed to be disturbed, 1,151 s.f. (1%) allowed. Comment memo by S. Hoag sent to Board of Adjustment. Application was moved to Board of Adjustment and then back to the Planning Board. S. Hoag.
- PENDING. 296 LAFAYETTE AVE. 10-8-08. Block 106, Lot 18. Application to Planning Board for amendment to deed restriction in order to construct a deck and walkways. Former Lyons property which had a four-family house. P. Collington.
- PENDING. 7 SYCAMORE DRIVE. 4-30-08. Block 38, lot 42.05. Devco Associates, LLC. Application to Planning Board for amended final site plan approval for variance for disturbance of steep slopes. Discussion of report by F. Esposito. L. Caprioglio.
- PENDING. ST. HUBERT'S. 9-23-08. Block 142, Lot 4.01. Application to Board of Adjustment for final site plan approval to expand existing facility. Conservation easement to NJDEP on wetlands and transition areas required as a condition. Applicant agreed to give a conservation easement to Chatham Township on the wetlands and transition areas. Monuments will be installed. Ordinance 2009-02 accepting the conservation easement has been introduced.
- PENDING. REXCORP. 3-31-08. Block 142 Lots 1 & 2 in Chatham Township, and Block 3303 Lot 2 in Madison. Application to NJDEP for Freshwater Wetlands Permits: GP#6 (activities disturbing up to 1 acre in isolated wetlands), GP#10A (very minor road crossing), Transition Area Averaging Plan Waiver, for a 2-phase development to create a pump-station, Giralda Farms Concert Series concert park, sanitary sewer lines, and office space. EC letters to NJDEP sent 7-18-07 and 5-6-08. Waiting for reply from NJDEP concerning vernal pools on the property.
- PENDING. OAK KNOLL SCHOOL. 9-11-07. Public hearing held 9-11-07 concerning request to temporarily amend the DEP conservation easement on the Oak Knoll school property at Hickory Tree in order to replace an existing stormwater pipe. DEP permit received, work to start soon.

## REPORTS & DISCUSSION

- R. Gallop has taken oversight of Township web site. K. Abbott will communicate with him regarding updating the EC page.
- Township Committee report. Shunpike Field project is waiting for NJDEP wetlands permit. W. O'Connor.
- New Tech electronics recycling facility tour in Somerset, Thursday March 5 at 11 a.m. Maximum 10 people may attend. K. Abbott.
- Planning Board report. Discussion of Devco application. L. Caprioglio.
- Open Space Committee report. New bike paths will open in the spring. Community garden project is moving forward. S. Hoag.
- Leaf blowing discussion – pollution from 2-cycle engines, consider establishing an ordinance similar to Montclair's. Leaf blowers work well for clearing light snow. R. Barrett.
- Electronics recycling events. At the May 6, 2008 CTEC meeting the Commission decided that the electronics recycling events in 2009 would be held on Saturday May 2, 2009 and Saturday October 3, 2009.
- Report on JCP&L SREC HEARING to investigate purchase of solar renewable energy certificates from owners of solar generation projects and possible residential rate increase. It was held on Wed. Jan. 21 at 4 PM and 5:30 PM at the Morris County Administration building. D. Stillinger.
- Reviewed New Jersey Conservation Foundation annual letter concerning their conservation easements on Green Village Road (block 144, lots 19.01 & 39, block 48.17, lot 130.01.) NJCF proposes putting up small signs along all the easement boundaries and planting a few shrubs along the one easement boundary where it has been mown. Could this be part of the Riverside Cleanup/Streamside Plant-Up project? D. Stillinger.
- Conservation easement on-the-ground baseline data collection project has been completed for now. Letters to property owners have been sent, data has been digitized. Gunn property at 47 Ormont Road (the parcel that was the subject of an easement violation notice to Mr. Gunn) has been sold. All conservation easements are on a map on the Township GIS web site. Discussion of standardizing a conservation easement agreement form and recommending Township adopt an ordinance requiring applicants to grant a conservation easement to the Township on all wetlands with a NJDEP conservation easement. L. Caprioglio, S. Hoag, D. Stillinger.

## RECENT LETTERS SENT

- January 2009. Remaining 13 letters were sent to property owners with conservation easements who were visited by John Linson in October thanking them for being good stewards and noting Mr. Linson's findings.
- December 2008: Letter from CTEC to ANJEC in support of ANJEC's application for a grant from the USEPA to develop model training and outreach materials for environmental commissions to use to reduce carbon emissions.
- December 2008: Evergreen Road to NJDEP and applicant, conservation easement findings letter to property owner Block 20 Lot 20, comment letter on Chatham Day School to Board of Adjustment.
- November 2008. 689 Shunpike Road to NJDEP, 494 Southern Boulevard to NJDEP.
- October 2008. 27 Pembroke Road to NJDEP, 11 Wickham Way to NJDEP, Green Village Firehouse to NJDEP.
- September 2008. Letter to Chatham Athletic Foundation suggesting alternatives to crumb rubber for artificial turf.
- May 2008. 47 & 51 Ormont Road to Planning Board, Verizon cell tower in Green Village to Board of Adjustment, 428 River Road to NJDEP, 49 Woodmont Drive to NJDEP, RexCorp re vernal pools to NJDEP.

## MAIL RECEIVED (not including applications and notices mentioned above)

- Notice dated January 15, 2009 from Chatham Borough as required by the NJDEP of application for a flood hazard area verification and General Permit authorization for disturbance of wetlands for work at Shepard Kollock Park to regrade an existing multi-use field area and construct a pervious pavement walkway through the site.
- Invoice from ANJEC for 2009 membership dues. We will add the 2 alternate CTEC members to the ANJEC list.
- Planning grant application form from ANJEC.
- CTEC expense statement January - December 2008.
- Minutes of Long Hill EC and Chatham Borough EC, various newsletters, event announcements, and flyers.

## CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:30 PM.

D. Stillinger for Carolyn Scannelli, Minutes Secretary